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PelhamNEWS

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inside

TAKING ROOT AT IN THE ORCHARD

For In the Orchard Programming for the Arts, it was a very good week. The non-profit youth arts program announced it received a \$7000 grant from the Ontario Arts Council, and Niagara College's Mary Handproject started work at its Happy Place Art Studio.

See story Page 8

FASHION AND FLAIR: Crossley students take environmental approach to dressmaking for upcoming show

Doing the Catwalk strut

WAYNE CAMPBELL
PelhamNEWS

A fashion class is making a fashion statement. But not the one you may expect.

E.L. Crossley Secondary School's Fashion and Creative Expressions students will hold Catwalk, a show featuring dresses and accessories with a recycling theme.

The students plan to satirize the fashion industry and encourage an environmental approach. They will include dresses made from a deck of cards, duct tape and shredded paper as well as from fashion magazines. At the same time, the students hope to raise money for new equipment, such as sewing machines.

Catwalk struts out at the school on Thursday, Feb. 4 at 7



WAYNE CAMPBELL/QMI Agency

E.L. Crossley Secondary School fashion students Victoria White, Jaclyn Cunningham and Holly Petrie use duct tape and recycled paper from typed reports to make a dress they will highlight with wrapping bows.

p.m. Admission is \$5. Donations are welcome.

"I wanted to have a showcase for our work and I want to encourage environmental self-efficiency," said teacher Sheri Wilkinson.

Wilkinson grew up in a family that did not have much money. She said she watched her

mother, learning how to stretch her clothing budget by sewing and recycling.

"I wanted to pass that on to these kids."

While typical fashion shows often display clothing provided by local stores and fashion sellers, the class wanted to go beyond that, stressing the cre-

ative expression side of the course in this show, she said.

Funds from the event will be used to upgrade the class's equipment. Most of their current sewing machines date back to the 1960s. While still efficient, parts for repairs are hard to find.

See FASHION | Page 2

See Inside: **PURPO'S**
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FASHION

Learning the basics

FROM PAGE 1

Wilkinson said she is not interested in the high-tech digital sewing machines now on the market, some costing \$2,000. She wants basic \$100 units that will allow students to remain flexible and creative.

Fashion and Creative Expressions is a one-semester course for Grade 11 and 12 students. It instructs them on the basics of sewing, weaving, hemming and other related skills.

"Few of the students knew how to sew when they started," said Wilkinson.

The class also encourages students to take a look at fashion in general and what they wear, she said.

Student Holly Petrie said she is making a dress out of magazines using duct tape. It's called Centfold.

It's her way of talking back to the fashion media.

"I made the dress overdone," she said, noting that it is similar to the way the media can overdo stressing certain fashions to the exclusion of others.

Clothing stores actually limit the fashions that are available, she explained. The media puts "so much pressure on what we wear," she said.

She recalls the experience of buying a sweater. "It fit well, it looked cute. I thought it would be hit," she said.

"When I got to school, 10 other girls were wearing the same sweater."

Petrie said fashion should be more about exploring your own creativity.

"You should be proud of what you wear and express yourself the way you want to," she said.

While she wouldn't suggest going to school or work in slippers and a housecoat, she said people should be comfortable in their clothes.

"If you feel comfortable, you will have a better day, you will look happy," she said.

The fashion course has taught her how to make clothes inexpensively.

"Why pay \$50 for a pair of jeans, when you can get the pattern and material and make them for much less?"

Fashion students and other students interested in modelling will wear the fashions during Catwalk.

Tickets will be available at the door.

ucampbell@wellandtribune.ca

upfront

■ 20 YEARS' SERVICE: Firefighters saluted



WAYNE CAMPBELL Staff Photo

Flanked by Mayor Dave Augustyn, left, and Fire Chief Scott McLeod, Pelham volunteer firefighters Les Hildebrand, Red Richards and Greg Sawchuk are honoured for 20 years of service at a town council meeting Monday. They received service medals engraved with their names from the town.

■ H2O CONSUMPTION: \$800,000 project to change 3,064 units

Town to change all water meters to radio devices

WAYNE CAMPBELL
Tribune Staff

PELHAM — Town council's general committee Monday night turned on the taps for a replacement of the municipality's 3,064 water meters.

The committee accepted Neptune Technology Group's tender for an \$800,000 project to replace within five months all existing meters with radio frequency meters.

Town treasurer Carl Pupo said radio frequency meters can be read remotely and will reduce reading time for all the meters in town to a half hour from the current 15 days.

Contract services fees are paid to an outside consultant for the service "thus the new

meter program will provide immediate return on investment."

"The water meter readings are stored in a software system which is automatically uploaded to the town's accounting system reducing the time needed to enter water meter readings," she said in a report to councillors.

Pupo said the high-tech features of the meter will detect tampering.

In Welland, during installation of meters an installer took payments for rerouting water through meters to avoid showing use.

Pupo said the contractor will be responsible for any possible fraud by its staff.

Pupo said the new meters would be able to measure system water loss.

"Town staff is confident that the

■ KYLE DRUZINA: Named OCNA Junior citizen of the year

Honoree made cents

St. Alexander Catholic School student Kyle Druzina will receive one of 12 Junior Citizen of the Year Awards from the Ontario Community Newspaper Association.

The award was announced at Monday's town council meeting by Sarah Murrell of *The Voice of Pelham* who, along with Mayor Dave Augustyn and Jeff English of sponsor Direct Energy, presented Kyle with a certificate.

The mayor called Druzina an exemplary young person. Last summer Kyle challenged St. Alexander students to save a

penny a day through the summer and donate it to Wells of Hope to build schools in Guatemala.

The students brought jars and jars of pennies to the school in September.

They filled a Wells of Hope trailer with \$4,000 worth of pennies.

The project is being continued at St. Ann Catholic School in Fenwick, where students are saving a penny a day throughout the school year.

—PelhamNEWS Staff

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■ E.L. CROSSLEY: Gr. 8 students get introduction

Learning
the layout
of the and

WAYNE CAMPBELL

PelhamNEWS Staff

High school Principal Ann Harrison says Grade 8 students have a common question.

"What do I do if I get lost?"

She told them and their parents it only happens the first day of school, during her introduction to an open house at E.L. Crossley Secondary School last Wednesday night.

"We have plenty of people ready to help you find your way," she said.

They guide students around the big four-storey building on Regional Rd. 20 as well as through the daily challenges faced by a new student.

With 200 of the school's 800 students in their first year, newcomers have lots of company.

For some, that 200 may be more students than they had in their elementary school, she said.

Crossley's gym was packed with parents and Grade 8 students from the high school's six feeder schools and from Catholic and other schools in the Pelham and Wainfleet area served by Crossley.

Students, many in Grade 9, served as guides for parents and the Grade 8 students during the open house which included displays in most of the school's classrooms.

Grade 9 students Berdine Breugem, Abigail Evans and Kathryn Hrycusko said the first couple days at Crossley for them were confusing.

But soon you totally know

where you are, they said.

They quickly became involved in activities such as the marching band, choir, the Interact (Junior Rotary) Club, choir, rowing, concert band, cross-country running and other sports and clubs.

The students echoed what music teacher David Gaines said during the assembly.

"Get your kids involved in something, otherwise school just becomes school," he said. Gaines called Crossley a triple-A school — academics, athletics and arts.

Nathan Markowski, a Grade 8 student at Pelham Centre Public School, said he was a little worried about going to high school, but he was very interested in the automotive technology program because his uncle has a shop.

His mother Beth Markowski, a Crossley graduate, said she's happy to see "they kept up the technology part."

Troy Christopher, the father of twins Brandon and Sarah Christopher, Grade 8 students at Glynn A. Green Public School, said during his tour things have changed a lot since he went to high school. There is far more to do.

Sarah wants to try drama and Brandon is into sports.

Christopher said he didn't have any concerns about his children entering high school.

"I just hope they do better than I did," he said with a laugh.

ucampbell@wellandtribune.ca



WAYNE CAMPBELL Staff Photos

Clockwise from top left: Twins Brandon and Sarah Christopher, Grade 8 students at Glynn A. Green public school with father Troy Christopher; Nick Guetter, a Grade 8 student at Glynn A. Green public school looks at a model of the Great Wall of China made by E. L. Crossley student Erin Alye; Alisha and Nathan Markowski of Pelham Centre public school inspect the automotive technology shop; Jessica Rimar, left, and her sister Emily Rimar sample cookies from Crossley family displays; teacher Trish Rybski; E. L. Crossley Grade 9 students Berdine Breugem, left, Abigail Evans and Kathryn Hrycusko help Grade 8 students from Glynn A. Green public school find their names on a welcome poster; Crossley Grade 9 student Sophie Butler shows Pelham Centre Grade 8 student Janine Vanocostrom and her parents Rosemary and Tony Vanocostrom fine points of Crossley's business program.

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perspective



Wayne Campbell
EDITOR

Double trouble

Residents along the north end of Hwy 20, may like double-doubles.

However, they don't like the double trouble of living near a recently expanded Tim Hortons.

In a letter to town council this week, they complained about employees of Tim Hortons and the Target filling the neighbouring street because of inadequate parking on the business sites. This is causing a very dangerous situation for the residents on a daily basis, as the employee vehicles are often parked on both sides of the driveways, as well as both sides of the street," they wrote to town council.

Ward 2 Coun. Sharon Cook called the situation "appalling" with people unable to safely get in or out of their driveways.

Council referred the letter to town staff for a report and recommendations. Ward 3 Coun. John Durely suggested sitting down with the business owners to come up with a solution.

Unfortunately, parking problems are not limited to the new H&M, St. and Regional Rd. 20 intersection. Employees have difficulty finding parking in other commercial areas.

Oddly, 70% of Pelham residents who work commute out of town. They must find parking.

Meanwhile, those who provide services within Pelham, such as coffee and retail workers, often commute into town.

Residents need the convenience of the services and the commercial property tax. However, they resent the cars of those who provide it.

The situation requires cooperation. Employers should provide more space on sites. Employees who must park on a street could spread out and ensure views from driveways aren't blocked. A short walk is healthy. And residents could remember those employees provide services to them.

comment

Aiming to revitalize downtown Fenwick

I have some more news regarding the revitalization of Pelham's downtowns.

You will recall that in late 2008 the town applied for funding from the federal and provincial government to revitalize both Fonthill's and Fenwick's downtowns.

The \$7.1-million application envisioned major infrastructure enhancements: water, wastewater and storm sewer improvements; burying of hydro cables; road improvements; and proper site-capturing — better parking, brick-work, decorative lampposts, benches and planters.

In early 2009 we heard we were successful in achieving two-thirds funding to revitalize downtown Fonthill. Those designs are in the final stages and work will be starting this spring.

However, the improvements for Fenwick were deemed a second project and ineligible for that funding.

But, in December the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario announced a second "intake" for the Community Adjustment



Dave Augustyn
MAYORAL VIEW

Fund. To be eligible for funding, the projects must be for organizations, small- to medium-sized businesses, or municipalities and completed by March 31, 2011. While the \$128-million fund is available for business to expand production capacity, technology, or access to markets, it also supports the "revitalization and development of downtown core" areas.

Following a resolution at a special council meeting last week, the town applied for \$2.3 million of funding from the federal government for the revitalization of Fenwick's downtown.

The \$2.7-million project would provide help "calm" traffic by creating urban design features — like pedestrian crossing treatments or gateways — that work with the road design to slow traffic.

The works would help to visually distinguish the down-

town core, provide decorative roadway and pedestrian lighting to improve safety, and widen sidewalks to help make it more walkable.

What about the flagpole at the intersection of Maple St. and Camboro Rd.? People seem to have strong feelings about what to do with the historic structure. Some suggest the status quo. Others envision the flagpole in the middle of a roundabout which could help reduce speeds and enhance the downtown core.

The town, via an engineering consultant, has already started formulating the design for downtown Fenwick. Rest assured, you will have a chance to comment as they present design concepts for a revitalized downtown.

If you would like to support the town's application, please write to: Community Advisory Board, 151 Yonge St., 3rd Floor, Toronto, M5C 2W7, and reference the Town of Pelham's application to Revitalize Downtown Fenwick. You may want to encourage our MP, Dean Allison, to continue to invest in Pelham, at info@edallison.ca.

Carrying a torch

Dec. 21, 2009 is a day that will be remembered by all in the town of Pelham.

Thousands of people lined the streets of Pelham to witness the Olympic Torch Run as the Olympic flame passed through town.

Thanks to the hard work of a dedicated committee consisting of Gayle Bailles-Chataway, April Robert, Vickie VanVeenendaal, Sharon Cook, Cathy Berkhout-Bosse and Jean Bancroft from the PBA and Gina Dineen and Fred Dishler, a very successful celebration of the Olympic Torch and an equally, if not superior, community gathering was hosted.



John Durely
OPINION

The day started with a skills competition at the Pelham arena featuring a team from the novice division of the Pelham Minor Hockey Association followed by a colourful pageantry of skating finesse presented by several members of the Pelham Figure Skating.

A pre-torch run warm-up parade was presented to the community featuring many youth groups, including Pelham Minor Hockey members, Pelham Figure Skating Club members, Pelham Youth Soccer Club members, athletic students from E.L. Crossley, the army cadets, the J.L. Crossley marching band and Don Cotter, president of Royal Canadian Legion Branch 613 and a torchbearer for the 1998 Calgary Olympics.

The Olympic flame was greeted with much enthusiasm and energy as 15 torchbearers relayed the flame on its journey from Quaker Rd. to Regional Rd. 20. An address by the Mayor was made at the RBC site on the corner of Regional Rd. 20 and Station St., a key spot along the route and a focal point where folks gathered.

After the torch passed through town, a community celebration was convened at Peace Park featuring the beautiful voices of "The Treasures, the A.K. Wigg school children's choir and Solstice.

The PBA made the final drawing to announce winners of its Christmas in Pelham promotion, cake and hot chocolate was served to the thousands of people who gathered around to enjoy the celebration and meet the torch bearers and see, up close, the actual torches and savour the event. Special thanks to the committee for its hard work to staff who went the extra mile to help set up and take down all of amenities and to Sobey's for the delicious and beautifully decorated cake.

Benjamin Moore

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Letter to the editor

Hold on to your wallets

Ladies and gentlemen of Pelham, it's time to hold on to your purses and wallets.

Town Council is once again deliberating the Pelham annual budget for 2010.

And while the annual tax increases over the past few years have been under 5%, the compound increase over the past six years is 57.2%.

Council can argue that recent increases have been modest, but these are top of previous double-digit increases

in 2004 (14.8%) and 2005 (16.1%).

To put that into perspective, the compound six-year property tax increase including regional, school, and town components was only 26.75%.

Why is the six-year compound Pelham tax increase more than double that of our overall Niagara tax increase?

I have one theory — perhaps it's the continuing saga of the irresponsible purchase of the 32 acres at Hwy. 20 and Rice Rd. by the previous council. And though the current

council voted to sell this property almost two years ago, we continue to finance this boondoggle to the tune of \$771,778 in interest to the end of 2009.

Ask your councillors what action, if any, has been taken to remove us of this tax burden.

If it was gone, we could even have a tax decrease this year to be more in line with the region's six-year compound tax increase. And wouldn't that be nice in these economic times.

Terry Wade
Fonthill

■ TOPIC

How saleable is a Pelham home?

Curb appeal is one of the most important aspects of real estate marketing and the initial consideration when planning to make a house more saleable.



Cathy Berkhout-Bosse
REAL ESTATEVIEW

Imagine that you have arrived in Pelham for the first time — what do you see? How pedestrian friendly does it appear. Would you feel inspired to stop for the afternoon and stroll about to all our local shops.

Often potential home buyers will not even consider booking an appointment for a viewing if the house or yard looks poorly maintained from the street. Realtors always recommend to sellers that they keep their property in the best possible shape; lawn mowed, leaves picked up, lawns washed, and driveways and sidewalks cleared of snow.

Money spent to stage a home prior to putting it on the market will inevitably increase the potential selling price for the property. In the case of investment in downtown revitalization the return to the community is exponential.

Visitors are attracted to stop more often and stay longer. Local residents develop a stronger sense of pride and attachment to the attributes of their hometown. In turn, more potential home buyers are drawn to establishing themselves personally within the positive energy of our welcoming neighborhood environment.

Of course, you can also have the best product but if no one knows about it, the chances are less likely that it will sell. According to a recent survey conducted by the National Association of Realtors, 90% of home buyers now use the Internet to search for real estate information.

See REAL ESTATE | Page 11

■ DURLEY

Spirit united community

FROM PAGE 4

Thanks also to Tim Horton for the hot beverages, to Star Tile, to members of Pelham Minor Hockey Association, Pelham Figure Skating Club, Pelham Youth Soccer, Crossley students, the Rotary Club, Fenwick and Ponthill Lions, The Kinsmen Club, the PBA, Geoff Maguire and Kelly Pascuzzi, Branch 613 of the Legion, and to Tim Denis, Laurie Walsh and Stephanie Sabourin from CKTB AM 610, Jim Pedlar, to our sound technician Tom Rick, Studio Southwest Photography and all others who contributed to the very successful day which will be remembered for life.

If I forgot anyone, please forgive me.

Getting the word out to the community was a key factor in the success of the

day and the fantastic attendance, for that I must thank and commend Sarah Murrell from *The Voice of Pelham* and Wynne Campbell from *PelhamNEWS* for their excellent reporting and promotion of the event.

Please accept my personal heartfelt and sincere thanks to all who helped this committee to plan host such a successful event and an equal thanks to each and every one of the thousands of members of our community who came out to join the celebration.

This event went a long way to pull our municipality together and to unite us in the spirit of community.

John Durley is a councillor for Ward 3 and chairman of the town's Olympic Torch Run committee.

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Ask the HEALTH EXPERT

BRENDAN BRAZIER

Continual Cleansing for Optimal Health & Vitality

There are many excellent articles and books dedicated to cleansing in "I won't go too much into the details in this article. What is interesting to note, however, is that all of these prescriptive abstentions from animal-based foods and focus solely on plant-based nutrition during the cleansing process. My take on this is that if you fast or go after a cleanse, then why not adopt a "continual cleansing" type diet? That's what I call the Thrive Diet, a common sense, simple approach to eating that is based on plant-based, whole foods.

You've decided to take the plunge and do a cleanse. That's a great first step. Once you have completed the cleanse of your choice, you will likely feel much better and you won't want that great feeling to go away. So how do you extend and expand upon these cleansing benefits for long-term optimal health and vitality? Start by consuming lots of raw, alkaline, forming fruits and vegetables. Eat on a regular basis, foods that will start the natural immune process away from processed foods that cause the body to become acidic.

At first, however, the body will not naturally crave plant-based foods when it is accustomed to processed and refined foods. You have to simply begin by adding more raw, natural, plant-based foods to your diet but not neglecting anything. Over time, you will naturally and peacefully have less interest in eating the more processed foods and you will gravitate towards the least processed whole foods. I know this sounds overly simplistic but it is a scientific fact that when the body has its nutritional needs fulfilled, cravings will dramatically decrease.

To get to the point where you no longer have to restrain yourself from eating unhealthy food is a great feeling and a little bit later that your body is cleansing itself and making a smooth transition to a much healthier lifestyle. Constantly fighting against it is not a healthy healthy way to live so

changing the perception of what your body desires is fundamental to breaking cravings permanently.

A good way to get more fruit and vegetables into your diet is by making smoothies at home and drinking them as snacks or meals. Beginning your day with a smoothie made with Vega Whole Food Health Optimizer is one of the best ways to get the body going, providing clean-burning, easily absorbed fuel to jump start your day.

Smoothies are easy and convenient to prepare and can pack a lot of nutrition into a glass — plus they taste great because to almost all palates it is important to note that though there are many yummy smoothie recipes out there, some are much healthier than others. Whereas many smoothies contain mostly carbohydrates, I like my smoothies to incorporate all the elements of a complete meal including protein and fiber. By following my basic guidelines for an ideal smoothie:

- Ensure only plant-based ingredients are used to benefit from continual cleansing
- Use ripe whole fruit and fruit juices for flavor and sweetness rather than adding sugar or artificial sweeteners
- Incorporate multiple sources of protein for a balanced amino acid profile
- Add source of Omega 3 & 6 fatty acids for heart and health benefits
- Try adding some "green" boost to pack in extra servings of vegetables

With my book, *Thrive Diet*, I include several recipes for chemically-rich, yummy smoothies. I created Vega Whole Food Health Optimizer as an easy, on-the-go alternative providing complete protein, fiber and fiber. Shake with water or orange and profit.

Add source of Omega 3 & 6 fatty acids for heart and health benefits

Try adding some "green" boost to pack in extra servings of vegetables

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■ 105.7 FM EZ ROCK: St. Alexander gets salute on radio



WAYNE CAMPBELL Staff Photos

St. Alexander Catholic School's Grade 4 classes received a salute from 105.7 FM EZ Rock with lunch served by Jack Peets and Lori Love, the morning show team. Education assistant Brenda Hicks entered the school into the radio station's contest. "They are great kids," she said. "They always say thank you." They are always willing to help each other and others outside the school. In addition to the radio station staff, the visit included Chilly, the mascot from Rink on the Brink at Niagara Falls.

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■ REAL ESTATE

Getting linked in

FROM PAGE 5

How visible is the Pelham community on the internet? Take the time to decide for yourself.

The Town of Pelham in conjunction with Welland-Pelham Chamber of Commerce and the Pelham Business Association provides a business directory within the town's website, www.pelham.ca.

It is important to always remember that the image that we project as a community fundamentally impacts our long-term potential for economic growth.

I for one, have grown weary of the descriptive — "come to Pelham, Niagara's hidden gem". Let's all work on polishing up our gem instead.

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- ▶ Dentures should be brushed inside and outside daily with a soft, large nylon denture toothbrush with round-ended bristles. Use denture creams instead of toothpaste, which is too abrasive and will scratch your denture. Rinse with cold water.
- ▶ Your mouth is constantly changing. Inspect your denture regularly for worn teeth and cracks.
- ▶ Be sure to visit your dentist regularly as part of your recommended check up schedule.
- ▶ Some medications can affect denture fit and wearability so be sure to discuss this with your doctor and dental professional.
- ▶ Only your dental professional is qualified to diagnose your oral health and adjust your denture or partial.
- ▶ Worn and stained dentures can make you look older and cause your dentures to function poorly.

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■ **PUBLISHED PRINCIPAL:** Megan Milani pressing pupils to read

Starting a new chapter

WAYNE CAMPBELL
PelhamNEWS Staff

Megan Milani has a passion for teaching students to read.

The energetic principal of E.W. Farr Memorial School in Fenwick believes anyone can learn to read.

"If children have the ability to converse, they have the ability to read," she said during an interview about her book *The Three Habits of Highly Successful Reading Teachers*.

Now she wants to bring the book from Pembroke Publish-

ers to the attention of parents.

"If parents have this information and take five minutes a day it will be extremely helpful to them," she said.

Before Milani became a vice-principal and then principal, she was a reading specialist and reading recovery teacher. During that time she sought the most efficient and effective way to teach reading.

Gradually she developed the LIFE (Literacy is for Everyone) program. She used it and polished it first as a teacher and most recently during her two

years as E.W. Farr's principal.

The LIFE techniques became the basis of *The Habits of Highly Successful Reading Teachers* book.

It goes beyond a traditional flash-card approach where children recognize words as they are shown to them. LIFE brings in sound and memorization, that is, auditory memory in addition to sight.

The program has three parts said Milani.

The first is to believe.

See **READING** | Page 20

WAYNE CAMPBELL Staff Photo

Nathaniel Macdonald, Grade 3 student at E.W. Farr Memorial School, reads with principal Megan Milani, author of *The 3 Habits of Highly Successful Reading Teachers*.



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■ **IN THE ORCHARD:** College's Many Hands project blossoming as funds harvested

Good things taking root

WAYNE CAMPBELL
PelhamNEWS Staff

For In the Orchard Programming for the Arts, it was a very good week.

Last Wednesday afternoon, the non-profit youth arts program announced it received a \$7,000 grant from the Ontario Arts Council.

It will help finance for six workshops by three local artists and a program to train young artists to recycle materials donated to the Salvation Army into art and fashion items.

"This grant will allow ITO to partner with the Salvation Army to begin the first recycled art collective here in Niagara," said executive director Angie Geiss.

The new program is called ART2.

Last Wednesday morning, in the Orchard's base at The Happy Place Art Studio was crawling with students and staff from Niagara College who are preparing for the school's next Many Hands Project.

For 13 years, the college's Many Hands Project has assisted non-profit groups

across the region, including The Hope Centre in Welland last year, the Women's Resource Centre in Beamsville in 2006 and Niagara Support Services in 2002.

Students in the renovation technician construction program will overhaul the interior and exterior of the art studio's often-altered downtown Fonthill building. Meanwhile event management students will arrange for volunteers, sponsors and fundraising events for a project that could total \$30,000.

Canadian Tire Financial Services is a lead sponsor, as it has been for 13 years, putting \$5,000 toward the project.

In the Orchard focuses on creating and providing innovative programs for young people, including at-risk youth, in communities surrounding Fonthill.

Renovations will include extending and upgrading washroom facilities, rebuilding a deck, replacing doors and interior structural enhancement to the art display and program activity areas.

See **IN THE ORCHARD** | Page 9



WAYNE CAMPBELL Staff Photo

Niagara College renovation technician student Aaron Parkinson, program co-ordinator Colin Robinson and Angie Geiss, executive director of In the Orchard Programming, for the Arts and owner of The Happy Place Art Studio, are preparing the Fonthill studio for a renovation being done through Niagara College's 2010 Many Hands Project.

• At least 1 in 3 people could still get H1N1.

• Half of those in hospital with H1N1 have been under 24 years old.

• Flu season continues until April.

• 1 in 5 people hospitalized with H1N1 have ended up in intensive care and/or on ventilators.

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■ IN THE ORCHARD

College students organizing many fundraisers

FROM PAGE 8

Geiss thanked Niagara College for supporting the program and improving facilities to deliver in the Orchard Programs.

"This is bringing very exciting changes for ITO," she said.

Mayor Dave Augustyn praised the Many Hands Project for taking on the work which will allow in the Orchard to continue to improve the services it provides to youth. The renovations, he said, are timely in light of a revitalization project about to start in downtown Fonthill. It will include a community improvement plan to encourage upgrading of buildings.

Colin Robinson, college renovation technician program co-ordinator, said 24 students will be involved in the program. They will work each Thursday for 15 weeks, wrapping up with the official Many Hands Day on April 10.

For the students, he said, "it's a chance to go into the community talk to suppliers, get into the lumber yards and shake hands with contractors." He called in the Orchard's facility an old building but sound.

Gary Dolch, with the construction design technician program, said his students will help out with structural engineering drawings for such things as fire barriers.

Event management students will organize fundraising events which include:

- Dance the Night Away on Saturday, Feb. 6, from 7 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. at Club Italia in Niagara Falls. Tickets \$25.

- Taste the World, Sample flavours from around the world, Saturday, Feb. 20, at the Festivities Conference Centre in Welland, from 6 p.m. Tickets are \$35.

- Fashion in the Falls, a charity fashion show, at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 27, at the Best Western Beacon Harbourside Inn and Suites Conference Centre in Jordan.

- Wild West Whodunnit! Murder Mystery, on Saturday, March 13, at the Beechwood Golf & Country Club in Niagara Falls, from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. Tickets are \$45.

Geiss said the renovations will tie in with projects underway through the Ontario Arts Council grant.

Workshops and instruction programs by textile and design artists Suzie Devor, Melanie VanderZwet and Azra Momin will conclude with a show of art work, textile and other recycled items by the students in April.

In the Orchard will be able to show the public the work of the Many Hands Project, she said.

For more information on the Many Hands initiative, visit NiagaraCollege.ca/ManyHands or call 905-641-2252 ext. 6404.

ucampbell@wellandtribune.ca

WAYNE CAMPBELL Staff Photo

In the Orchard executive director Angie Geiss, Adrienne Berg, E.L. Crossley co-ordinator Matt Hennessy, volunteer Milica Petkovic and Axel Kinnear, also a Crossley co-ordinator.



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localbrief

HOSPITAL DRAW TICKETS REMAIN

Tickets are still available for the Tim Hortons Elimination Draw for the Welland Hospital Foundation.

On Wednesday, Jan. 27, at the Croatian National Home people have a chance to win a share of \$3,000, door prizes and, for those

who purchased tickets early, an opportunity to win one of 14 coffee-lover gift packs with coffee brewer, tins of coffee and mugs. A total 230 tickets have been sold at a cost of \$65 each. The hall can accommodate 300 people, symposium at 6 p.m. followed by dinner at 7 p.m. For tickets call 905-378-4647 ext. 32395.

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Category 2 participants can be on the same team. Simply indicate on your forms which category you prefer.

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Looking beyond the Blue Box

At the first public works committee meeting in 2010 we received a report on the Blue Box program and examined ways to improve waste diversion.

The 2010 plans are short-term as there are longer term possibilities based on the future awarding of the new waste collection contracts for 2011 and beyond.

Briefly put, we have asked for a wide variety of options for the next collection contract: what about weekly collection of blue and grey boxes; what about one side of the road collection so that trucks travel fewer kilometres; what about waste (garbage) collection every two weeks to encourage people to put the "yucky stuff" out in the green bin instead of the garbage; what about asking the collectors to stack the containers neatly after collection rather than throwing them to the ground; what about putting garbage in a clear container so that only containers with real garbage get collected and not



Brian Baty
REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

those containing recyclables and compostables? And the list goes on.

Costs and benefits will determine the choice of action once the bids are in for the new collection contracts.

I expect full and frequent discussions with taxpayers before the final choices are made.

In the meantime, there are expected changes that will affect your blue box program in 2010.

Firstly, you can expect ongoing media releases urging citizens to recycle using the blue and grey boxes. We hope to achieve 65% waste diversion by 2012 and seem to be stuck at about the 43% level despite ongoing social marketing.

Citizens tell me that the waste collection calendar and waste collection newsletters

are well read and well received and those supportive materials will continue.

A positive change is taking place after May 1 this year. If your blue box or grey box is damaged, a replacement for it will be available at no cost. In addition the new containers are approximately 30% larger than the existing ones.

I have asked that staff bring to the next waste management steering committee samples of protected nets that prevent materials from escaping the boxes when they are at the roadside.

If they work then we should consider providing them to home owners or promoting their sale at reasonable prices in local stores.

As with most items, costs are rising so blue box and grey boxes will rise from \$5 to \$6 this year. Recycling carts will rise from \$75 to \$80, tipping fees, if you transport materials to the landfill site, will rise from \$80 to \$90. Overall, the cost for waste collection service is about \$150 per household per year.

That includes the costs of large item collection, hazardous waste collection, leaf and branch collection and annual Christmas tree pickup. Compared to the cost of hiring a private truck for a barn or cellar cleanup, I think that is a reasonable expenditure. You may not know it but your efforts to divert waste to the blue boxes and grey boxes saves you money.

In 2010 Waste Diversion Ontario will provide \$2,324,880 based on 38% of the actual operating costs in 2008 of \$6,077,121. As regions implement "best practice" procedures, that share will rise so we are encouraged environmentally and financially to do more to divert waste from landfill sites. Consideration is being given to the inclusion of new items to the blue boxes this year.

Program considerations for 2010 include weekly collection at multi-residential sites and the collection of empty paint cans and aerosol containers. More on that as decisions are finalized later this year.

Brian Baty is a regional councillor for Pelham and is a member of the waste management steering committee and the public works committee.

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■ **OPINION:** Return called senseless

Pelham resident Margaret MacGregor, 90, says Canada Post wasted money by returning to her a letter with insufficient postage bound for British Columbia. The cost of paying a letter carrier to return it to her house and cost of the sticker to tell her why exceeds the cost of one extra stamp the old-sized envelope required to go to British Columbia, she said. She had \$1.14 worth of two stamps. The letter required \$1.40. By putting another stamp on it she paid \$1.62 but Canada Post isn't returning the difference, she said.



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Supplied Photos
Teams from Pelham, Alabama, received a taste of outdoor hockey in Fenwick during the 11th annual Silver Stick A/E International finals. Host Pelham teams invited them to an afternoon of hockey and tobogganing as a break from the tournament schedule of indoor hockey.



■ COUNCIL: Pellham reaches 40 years

Charter Building wins contract for town hall addition

WAYNE CAMPBELL
PelhamNEWS/ Staff

Town council began its 40th anniversary year by meeting for the last time in its current council chambers Monday.

Mayor Dave Augustyn welcomed councillors and the public to the beginning of the 40th anniversary year for the town and the region. He mentioned the significance of the timing of the meeting.

The Town of Pelham was formed, along with 11 other lower tier municipalities, with the creation of the Niagara Region in 1970.

Before that it was the Township of Pelham with stand alone villages of Fenwick and Fonthill.

Later in Monday's meeting council accepted a \$327,698 tender of Charter Building Co. for an expansion of the town hall.

Work is expected to begin within a week.

Until it is completed in 12 weeks about the end of March, town council will hold its regular, committee and public meetings at Pelham Fire Station No. 1 on Regional Rd. 20 in Fonthill.

During the expansion crews will move the northern wall of the town hall to a municipal parking lot.

They will filling in an exit driveway from the rear parking lot and reroute traffic through the municipal parking lot.

In addition to a new council chambers, the addition will include a committee room, the mayor's office and the office for the chief administrative officer.

The mayor's and CAO's current offices on the second floor will go to new and redistributed staff.

The expanded council chambers will include wiring for computers, projectors and teleconferencing as well as for improved sound systems.

New equipment, furnishings and other items for offices and council chambers are expected to cost \$20,000.

Nine companies bid on the construction contract. Charter Building had the lowest. The highest was \$377,670.

The \$327,698 winning bid was below the town's budget of \$345,000 for the construction, said CAO Martin Vanich in his report.

The town received a federal Community Adjustment Fund grant which covers most of the cost of the project.

The original plan was to put the expansion on the second floor of the town hall.

However, it was determined the building could not support a second-story addition.

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■ hockeybrief

DRAGONS TAME THUNDER

Tim Hortons Red Dragons squared off against the White Thunder in a hard fought defensive battle on Sunday, Jan. 17.

Ethan Doherty led his team to a 2-1 victory in net for the Thunder.

Kassidy Moore made some key saves in

net for the Dragons to keep the score close.

Ty Philbrick opened the scoring with 276 seconds left in the first period.

Daniel Gultard scored an unbelievable goal in the third period for the Dragons to tie the game only to have Ben Bonisteel score the game winner at 2:48 of the

third.

Great game by all players.

Game statistics are as follows:

Dragons: Daniel Gultard (1 goal), Nolan Killean (1 assist), Thunder: Ty Philbrick (1 goal), Ben Bonisteel (1 goal), Lucas Gaudet (1 assist), Tommy Leavens (1 assist).



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\$5 Million Dollar 1st Mortgage Syndication \$20 Million Dollar Property Value 2% Cash to Equity Ratio Minimum Investment \$100,000.00 9% Annual Interest Rate \$750.00 Dollars Interest Paid Monthly 3 Year Term Prospective Provided in Confidence To Qualified Investors This Amazing Investment Opportunity Closes Wednesday March 31st 2010. Please Send Contact Info to P.O. Box 121 Welland On L38 3Z6

Real Estate

Investment Properties A545

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Apartments Unfurnished A610

NEW AD

1 & 2 BDRM APT BUILDING 9 MI. ST. New ready for occupancy. IN VISIT OR OPEN HOUSE. PRIVATE MORTGAGE EARLY TO 12% ANNUAL INTEREST PAID MONTHLY EXCELLENT SECURITY. Send contact info to P.O. Box 121 Welland On L38 3Z6

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Apartments A614

Bachelor apt. avail. Feb. 1 No pets. Non-smoker. \$540.00/mo. incl. hydro/heat. Lease, till end. Call 269-805-0515

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Apartments A616 East

174 Hager Welland 2 bdrm apart. \$500/mo. incl. hydro/heat. Available March 1st. 210. 700.00/mo. Utilities included. First and last and references required. Call 905-714-0915 leave message

Commercial A620 Office Space

NEW AD

1000 - 6000 Sq. Ft. AVAILABLE. South West. Call 905-668-6046

Must See

1100 sq. ft. empty, perfect, great location. Avail Mar 1st. \$2500 incl. 905-735-1155.

Condos & A630 Townhouses

Move-in Condition

TOWNHOUSE LIVING in luxury 3 BDRM & 2.5 bath. Kitchen, livingroom, dinningroom, 10 ft. x 10 ft. x 10 ft. Completely renovated. Parking, new schools, etc. \$800.00. 1st/2nd 289-08-0794

Halls/A645 Wedding Rentals

WELLAND OPTIMIST KINGS BLDG. 1000-1000. Up. Up to 50 people. BN 739-3000.

Must See

Under New Management! Canboro Gardens

Condo, quiet, well-maintained. Great Spacious suite avail immediately. 1 BDRM, \$609 - Hydro, Heat, Cable. 2 BDRM, \$899 - Hydro Included. Close to the cities of Welland and Fortnall. 905-692-8025

AT THE LIBRARY

'CRIME TIME' MONTHLY AUTHOR EVENT: Toronto author Jill Edmondson reads from her debut novel *Blood and Groom* on Tuesday, Jan. 26 at 7 p.m. Books for sale and signing. Free.

REDUCING STRESS FOR A HEALTHY BRAIN: Focus is on how stress impacts the brain and strategies to lower your risk of damage and to promote overall brain health at any age. Presented by the Alzheimer Society. Free but please register ahead. Wednesday, Jan. 27 at 6 p.m.

FREE TAX & FINANCIAL INFO SESSION: Learn some tax sav-

ings techniques and make sure your nest egg is protected. A certified financial planner will go over tax planning and financial advice for your family. Monday, Feb. 1, from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Free but please register ahead.

PHILOSOPHERS' CAFÉ: Corporate Social Responsibility: A Win-Win Situation? Owners of The Wildflower, Cafe on Main, Nature's Corner, and de la Terre join Dr. Chelsea Wilmes to talk about the influence of social responsibility on stakeholders such as customers and potential employees. Takes place Tuesday, Feb. 2, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Cost is \$1. Please register ahead.



Richard Brown
SALES REPRESENTATIVE

ROYAL LEPAGE

Niagara Real Estate Centre Inc., Brokerage

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"Selling Throughout Niagara"

AROUND TOWN

SATURDAY, JAN. 23

PELHAM MINOR BASEBALL ASSOCIATION will hold a registration day at Pelham Arena from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Registration is open for all divisions, from T-ball to midget. Forms can be downloaded from www.pmba.ca and brought to the arena, or can be mailed in to the address indicated. Registration will remain open until all divisions are filled.

SUNDAY, JAN. 24

CANADIAN AUTHORS ASSOCIATION (NIAGARA BRANCH) meets from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Fiction writers group at the home of Emily Arseneau, 125 Lake St., St. Catharines. During each meeting, two members present their fiction to the group for critique and discussion. Visitors are welcome for three meetings before they are expected to become

Canadian Authors members. Call Emily Arseneau at 905-346-3073 for more information.

MONDAY, JAN. 25

PELHAM HORTICULTURE SOCIETY general meeting, 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at Pelham Public Library, Fonthill. Get your gardening juices flowing with Jackie Lynch of Friends of Nature presenting Flower Power 2010. Refreshments. New members and guests welcome!

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 27

WELLAND CAMERA CLUB has a special presentation this evening by Heather Halfyard – "New York City". Our Len Trumble Image Competition results will also be shown. A great evening for photography and socializing. Our new

starting time is 7:30 p.m. at Wesley United Church, 244 First Ave. N. For info call Larry Lanigan at 905-892-4699.

THE FRIENDS OF SHORT HILLS PARK is hosting a night-time walk in the woods for members. Meet at the St. John Outdoor Education Centre on Roland Rd. for 7 p.m. Dress warmly and bring a flashlight. Hopefully the coyotes will be talking to us. For info call Anne Kubu at 905-685-4965.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 3

ST. CATHARINES NEWCOMERS CLUB invites women of all ages new to the Niagara area to join us at the Heidehof, 600 Lake St., St. Catharines at 7:30 p.m. Call Pat at 905-937-9889 or Owen at 905-641-9816

E-mail submissions to pelhamnews@wellandtribune.ca

<p>Garage Sales</p>	<p>Drywall/Plaster \$160</p> <p>K. LAW DRYWALL Taping, drywall, beam reno. 416-305-768-2382 www.klawdrywall.com</p>	<p>Business/ Franchise Opps \$390</p> <p>ATTENTION READERS</p> <p>classifiedextra.ca strongly urges readers to investigate potential BUSINESS and FRANCHISE Opportunities before sending money in response to any advertisements.</p>
<p>Home Improvement</p>	<p>classifiedextra.ca</p> <p>ADVERTISE IN CLASSIFIEDS... IT WORKS</p> <p>1-866-541-6757</p>	
<p>Drywall/Plaster \$180</p> <p>JOHN'S TAPING & Drywall, Carpentry, renovations & home repairs. 905-834-5684</p>	<p>Professional Services</p> <p>Need it in the classifieds?</p>	<p>There are people looking for what you're selling. Make sure they see it with Classified Extra 1-866-541-6757</p>

Coming Events

A940

SUBWAY

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SUNDAY JANUARY 24th

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PUPPO'S Corner of Maple Ave. and Prince Charles Drive	Monday Through LE PROVINCIAL FRENCH BREAD 1/2 PRICE 1.49 <small>16oz 2</small>	CUT FROM DELTAIR A BEEF OR HIGHER (NORTHWICH PACKERS CORN FED BEEF) EXTRA LEAN GROUND BEEF 1/2 PRICE 2.99 <small>SAVE \$2.00/lb.</small>
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SPECIALS in effect Fri. Jan. 22nd to closing Thurs. Jan. 28th, 2010 • OPEN SAT. 8-5, SUN. 10-5, MON., TUES., WED. 9-6, THURS-FRI. 9-9

CUT FROM ONTARIO AA BEEF OR HIGHER (NORTHWICH PACKERS CORN FED BEEF) BONELESS NEW YORK STRIP STEAKS 1/2 PRICE 4.99 <small>lb.</small>	FRESH AIR CHILLED CHICKEN LEGS NO BACKS ATTACHED 1/2 PRICE 1.49 <small>3 PKG. LIMIT</small>	CUT FROM ONTARIO AA BEEF OR HIGHER (NORTHWICH PACKERS CORN FED BEEF) BONELESS SIRLOIN TIP ROASTS AGED TO PERFECTION SAVE \$2.00/lb. 3.99 <small>lb.</small>
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CUT FROM ONTARIO AA BEEF OR HIGHER (NORTHWICH PACKERS CORN FED BEEF) BONELESS FAST FRY OR CUBE STEAKS 1/2 PRICE 4.99 <small>lb.</small>	DELI Specials Country Meats JACU ROAST BEEF 1/2 PRICE 4.99 <small>lb.</small> Genoa SALAMI 1/2 PRICE 4.99 <small>lb.</small> MOZZARELLA CHEESE 1/2 PRICE 4.99 <small>lb.</small>	FRESH PORK PUPPO'S HOT OR MILD ITALIAN SAUSAGE 1/2 PRICE 3.99 <small>cutting</small> SAVE \$4.00 2.99 <small>lb.</small>	FRESH PORK BONELESS SIRLOIN PORK CHOPS 1/2 PRICE 2.99 <small>lb.</small>
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WONDER PLUS BREAD WHITE OR 100% WHOLEWHEAT 675 g loaf SAVE \$1.00 1.69	Royale 2 Ply BATHROOM TISSUE PACKAGE OF 12 DOUBLE ROLLS 1/2 PRICE 4.99 <small>2 pkg. limit</small>	GREEN GIANT VEGETABLES PEAS, NIBLETS, CREAM CORN, GREEN OR WAX BEANS 12/14 oz. can \$1 <small>LIMIT 12</small>
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NATURE VALLEY GRANOLA BARS Box of 5 to 10 2/\$4 Money Nut CHERIES 4.99 OCEAN SPRAY CRANBERRY COCKTAIL 3.99/10	Friday, Saturday & Sunday Only D'ITALIANO BREAD 675g loaf 2/\$4 CHEESE THINSLATIONS 2/\$5 LAYS POTATO CHIPS 2/\$5	PRIMO SOUP 540 ml can 1/2 PRICE 1.29 <small>1/2 Can Limit</small> ROMANO GNOCCHI OR TORTELLINI 1LB. bag 2/\$4	CLOVERLEAF FLAKED LIGHT TUNA 170g can \$1 BRAVO SPAGHETTI SAUCE 680 ml can \$1 Brewer's Classic ICE CREAM 3/\$10
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FROM THE TROPICS JUMBO CANTALOUPE \$1.99 CALIFORNIA LARGE SIZE SEEDLESS ORANGES \$5.99 <small>9 LBS. BAG</small>	LOCALLY PRODUCED APPLE CIDER \$5.99 NO. 1 GRADE CHIEFLAN BLUEBERRIES 2/\$4 <small>1/2 PINT</small>	NO. 1 GRADE CALIFORNIA ICEBERG, ROMAINE OR LEAF LETTUCE 99c Extra Fancy Ontario RED DELICIOUS, GALA & MUTSU APPLES 99c <small>lb.</small>	No. 1 Grade Ontario ENGLISH CUCUMBERS 1.49 No. 1 Grade California CAULIFLOWER 1.49 <small>lb.</small>	No. 1 Grade Ontario CABBAGE IDEAL FOR SAUTERDRAFT \$1.29 Store Made Fresh COLESLAW OFF YOUR OWN DRESSING 1.29 <small>lb.</small>
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READING

Program takes five minutes to deliver

FROM PAGE 7

"You truly have to believe your student (or child) will learn," she said. "We all have our stories about how someone believed in us and what a difference it made."

The second habit involves the techniques including a chant of most commonly occurring words in reading.

"They are delivered in a way that makes even the most struggling student feel like a reader from the start," she said.

They learn to chant high-frequency words, those that turn up regularly in stories and arranged by grade level. Of course, they read the list as they learn the chant.

"They are adapted from the Dolch words (220 sight words) and they make up 50-70% of what we read, she said.

The third habit is assessment of the program.

"The program is easy to learn and takes only five minutes a day to deliver," Milani said. "It's enjoyable for students as they feel successful from the start and their confidence starts to build."

The program was worked at E.W. Farr, a primary school with students from junior Kindergarten to Grade 3.

Over the past two years students in all classes are reading at their grade level or above.

She Keating, District School Board of Niagara literacy coach, said it's unusual to have that consistency in a school.

She assisted Milani in preparing the assessment portion of the book.

Keating, who has more than 40 years of experience in education, called Milani's program "No. 1 for teaching students to read."

In particular, she appreciates the confidence-building approach. It shows students they can read, especially after they've come to believe they can't.

A challenge in developing the program, which led to the book, was ensuring other teachers could use it.

It's enjoyable for students as they feel successful from the start and their confidence starts to build.

Principal Megan Milani

"Will it work if somebody else did it?" Milani asked. "I wouldn't give up until I got the student reading."

Teachers are so busy, she said. They needed something quick and easy to do, that got results quickly. Only then would teachers buy into it.

The feedback she has received to the Three Habits book, she called heartwarming.

Some came from the United States where the book was released in October the same time as Pembroke Publishers released it in Canada.

A teacher in Florida told her it boosted the reading level of her students so they could pass tests they were failing on.

"Really telling kids you know your smart is a big part, even most reluctant reader is self-motivated," said Milani.

This ability to learn transfers from reading to other subjects such as math once the students develop the confidence to learn, she said.

For parents, the program is easy to understand and can be applied in the home using books they have available, she said.

Milani has been doing workshops for teachers and will work with Hutton and Hamilton Catholic and public school boards in the spring.

Milani has a website www.meganmilani.com with more information about the book and plans to use it to provide reading tips to parents.

She can be reached by e-mail read@meganmilani.com.

ucampbell@wellandtribune.ca